

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 EB-07 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /099 W

-----104369 280024Z /63

P R 272322Z JUN 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4236
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2057

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, WA, JA, UNSC
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA -- BRIEFING OF JAPANESE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

1. JAPANESE PERM REP ABE CALLED ON MCHENRY JUNE 27 TO BE BRIEFED ON CURRENT STATUS OF NAMIBIAN PROBLEM. ABE SAID THAT SINCE JAPAN IS REPRESENTED IN CAPE TOWN ONLY BY A CONSUL GENERAL, HIS GOVT HAD NOT RECEIVED A VERY FULL ACCOUNT OF THE CAPE TOWN TALKS OF SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS. ABE SAID HE HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO ATTEND ECOSOC IN GENEVA, AND FOLLOWING THAT (FROM JULY 20) HE PLANNED TO TRAVEL TO LAGOS,
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DAR ES SALAAM, NAIROBI AND LUSAKA TO FAMILIARIZE HIMSELF AND HIS GOVT WITH CURRENT ATTITUDES TOWARD SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

2. MCHENRY BRIEFED ABE ON GENERAL OUTLINES OF THE NAMIBIAN TALKS AND CURRENT STATUS OF ACTION. ABE SAID HE WAS IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH THE EFFORTS OF WESTERN

FIVE. HE ASKED A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ABOUT WHICH PARTS OF PACKAGE THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE ACCEPTED FULLY, SWAPO'S REACTION, THE STATUS OF PLANNING ON POTENTIAL PEACEKEEPING TYPE OF REQUIREMENTS IN SYG'S OFFICE AND POLITICAL PRISONERS.

3. ABE SAID HE WOULD WELCOME ANY GUIDELINES MCHENRY MIGHT WISH TO PROVIDE TO MAKE ABE'S SWING THROUGH AFRICAN CAPITALS AS USEFUL AS POSSIBLE FOR THE WESTERN INTERESTS. MCHENRY SUGGESTED THAT (A) IT IS IMPORTANT THAT NONE OF THE PARTIES DIG IN THEIR HEELS IN OPPOSITION TO ANY PART OF TENTATIVE PROPOSALS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION, THAT THEY REMAIN AT LEAST RECEPTIVE TO CONSIDERATION OF THE IDEAS EVEN IF THEY ULTIMATELY CANNOT ACCEPT THEM; AND (B) AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE WESTERN POSITION, IN CONTRAST WITH PREVIOUS TIME, IS THAT THE WESTERNERS HAVE NOT "WINKED" AT THE SOUTH AFRICANS; THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE PREVIOUSLY FELT THAT TOUGH WESTERN TALK WAS ONLY WORDS, AND IN THE CRUNCH THE WEST WOULD GO ON WITH BUSINESS AS USUAL. IN OTHER WORDS, THE WESTERNERS' INTENTION TO ENFORCE THEIR POLICY SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO AFRICANS.

4. COMMENT: WE HAVE TRIED TO KEEP THE JAPANESE MISSION UP TO DATE WITH DEVELOPMENTS AT THE WORKING LEVEL, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST SHOW OF INTEREST IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS BY ABE. SINCE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS ULTIMATELY HAVE SOME IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS FOR JAPANESE INTERESTS, AND CON-
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TINUING JAPANESE SUPPORT OF THE DIRECTION OF OUR POLICY WILL BE USEFUL THIS FALL IN THE GA, WE SUGGEST THAT THE CONTACT GROUP IN CAPETOWN OCCASIONALLY CUT THE JAPANESE CONSULATE GENERAL IN ON LOCAL BRIEFING EXERCISES.
MCHENRY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, BRIEFINGS, POLITICAL SITUATION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN02057
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770229-0947
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770614/aaaaalzg.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c14eda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2020739
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA -- BRIEFING OF JAPANESE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, WA, JA, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c14eda75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009